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INSIDE:
Dry Bean Grower
Meets with Vice
President Pence,
Talks Trade

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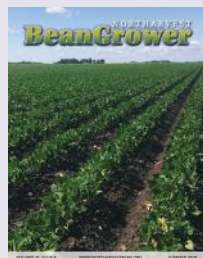
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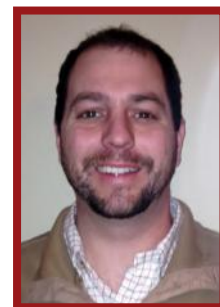
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VOLUME 25 ISSUE 4

NEW NORTHARVEST LEADERSHIP

I am honored to step into this leadership role with the Northarvest Bean Growers Association. Thanks to my predecessor, Tom Kennelly, for his tireless work for our industry. We have a tremendous board of directors with diverse opinions. Remember, we're working for you. Don't hesitate to contact the Northarvest office or any of your board members with your input.




The 2019 growing season started off with its share of challenges. We had a late start, but we're optimistic Mother Nature will cooperate and deliver the yields and quality we're looking for.

In this issue of the *BeanGrower*, you'll find an update on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement and Vice President Mike Pence's visit to the region. There's also a profile on NDSU dry bean breeder Juan Osorno, and a recap of the research projects funded by your checkoff dollars.

Sincerely,

David Dickson, President
Northarvest Bean Growers Association



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From the Archives of the Northarvest Bean Growers Association

1 Year Ago: Summer 2018

PINTO BEANS INCLUDED IN SECTION 32 PURCHASE

USDA has announced up to \$177.4 million in purchases of American-grown products for nutrition assistance programs using a new streamlined process. The products that will be purchased will be provided to families in need through nutrition assistance programs. Included in the purchase will be \$11 million worth of pinto beans. The purchase, through USDA's Section 32, is the result of a March 2018 request by the Northarvest Bean Growers Association and the North Central Bean Dealers Association. The letter was sent as a joint effort to request action to resolve the surplus inventory problem for pinto beans. This is the third Section 32 purchase since 2015.

TRADE TRIP TO THE DR

The U.S. Dry Bean Council spent seven days cultivating dry bean in-

dustrial relationships in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. Taking part in the trade mission was USDBC board member and Webster, North Dakota grower Kevin Regan. "The whole idea of the trip was to understand the dry bean value chain and figure out different ways to get U.S. product into those Caribbean markets," says Regan.

5 Years Ago: Summer 2014

LACK OF RAIL CARS IMPACT DRY BEAN INDUSTRY

In testimony before the Surface Transportation Board (STB) in Washington, D.C. in early April, Walhalla Bean Company's John Berthold said that consistent and reliable single-car rail transportation is vital to the dry bean industry. Berthold represented both the North Central Bean Dealers Association and the Northarvest Bean Growers Association, and explained why the dry bean industry is so dependent on adequate rail service.

TRADE TRIP TO COLOMBIA

Six people from Northarvest participated in a trade mission to Colombia this spring in an effort to identify opportunities for beans, specifically pinto beans. The plan was to invite importers to participate in lunches where typical recipes were prepared with pinto beans from Minnesota and North Dakota. The trade mission included Dan Webster, then President of the Northarvest Bean Growers Association; Tim Courneya, Executive Vice President; Bill Thoreson, Sales Manager, North Central Commodities; Pat Wallesen, President, Westar Food; Rick Harpestad, President, SRS Commodities; and Fradbelin Escarraman, Northarvest Bean Growers Association representative.

10 Years Ago: Summer 2009

WEED MANAGEMENT IMPACTED BY FLOODING

Excessive spring moisture and flooding impact-

ed weed management. NDSU Extension Agronomist Jeff Stachler said the delayed harvest of crops in the fall increased the issue with volunteer corn and soybeans. Special management of Roundup Ready crops was advised.

ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO FERTILIZER PLAN

Many producers had planting delays in the Red River Valley this spring due to record overland flooding and untimely rain showers. How will this affect their fertilizer decisions? Dave Franzen, NDSU Extension Soil Specialist, said many growers will choose to broadcast urea, band urea, and in some cases even broadcast or band liquid 28-0-0. "In many years, the cost of 28-0-0 (UAN) is substantially higher than urea, but this year costs are often very similar. Because of the small difference in costs there might be UAN used, particularly if custom-applied by the retailer who is set up with a sprayer and nurse equipment.

Minnesota Urban Ag Day 2019

Twin Cities youth learn about food and farming

The Northarvest Bean Growers Association participated in the Minnesota Urban Ag Day. The two-day event on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds engages Twin Cities youth, who learn about where their food comes from, how it's grown and what it's like to be a farmer.

Nearly 250 youth came through the Northarvest booth to learn about dry edible bean farming through the game "Bean Crazy." This game takes students through a year of

farming, where they make decisions and see how different scenarios unfold to impact their profitability

and success.

This event was an opportunity to help youth learn more about where

their food comes from, why it's important to eat beans and what it means to be a farmer.



Northarvest Director of Domestic Marketing and Communications Megan Myrdal teaches youth about dry edible beans during the two-day event.



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2019 Northarvest Research Funding Summary

The Northarvest Bean Growers Association's commitment to research is evident by the dollars invested to fund new and continuing public research. The Northarvest Board of Directors met in March and approved research projects for 2019. These projects are designed to increase profitability to dry edible bean producers by mitigating risk and make the production of dry beans easier for growers.

SOIL HEALTH AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH EXTENSION (SHARE) FARM

Project Leader: Abbey Wick, North Dakota State University

Cooperators: Caley Gasch, Marisol Berti, Aaron Daigh, Frank Casey, Dave Franzen, Greg Endres, Mike Ostlie and Naeem Kalwar, North Dakota State University

Project Objective: The SHARE Farm concept conducts field-scale, on-farm, farmer-driven, long-term research and is unique to North Dakota. The first SHARE Farm location was in Mooreton and was established in 2013. The second SHARE Farm site was selected west of Larimore. The goal is to develop and evaluate soil health building management approaches in a corn-soybean-wheat-pinto bean rotation.

Additional funding sources are coming from the North Dakota Corn Council, North Dakota Soybean Council, North Dakota Wheat Commission, and National Corn Growers Association Soil Health

Partnership.

Northarvest funding request: \$34,128

NORTH DAKOTA DRY EDIBLE BEAN VARIETY TRIALS

Principal Investigator: Eric Eriksmoen

Co-principal investigators: Justin Jacobs, Bryan Hanson, Mike Ostlie, Kelly Cooper, John Rickertsen and Hans Kandel, NDSU

Project Objective: These trials support plant breeding efforts with science-based variety comparisons. Trials are conducted on pinto, navy, black and miscellaneous classes grown at four dryland and two irrigated NDSU Research Extension Centers. Trials will be planted utilizing best management practices for the area and farming practices in which the trial is being grown. Conventional tillage, no-till and irrigated conventional tillage practices. Comparisons will be made for agronomics, seed quality and seed yield.

Northarvest funding request: \$13,250

ROW SPACING, SEEDING RATES AND PRECISION PLANTING OF DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Principle Investigator: Eric Eriksmoen

Project Objective: The small plot replicated research trial compares precision seeding with conventional seeding, comparing various population rates and row spacing combinations. Pinto and kidney beans will be

planted in 15 inch and 30 inch row spacing. The seeding rates of 50,000, 70,000 and 90,000 pure live seeds per acre will be evaluated. A final report will be completed in December 2019

Northarvest funding request: \$6,000

DRY EDIBLE BEAN DISEASE RESEARCH

Principle Investigators: Julie Pasche and Sam Markell, North Dakota State University with collaboration from Juan Osorno, North Dakota State University

Project Objective: Dry bean yields are limited by disease and pests, with the most recent research efforts focused on root rot. In 2019, the research will continue to concentrate on root rot pathogens, while conducting trials for management of white mold, rust and other diseases. A top priority is the ability to identify dry bean variety lines with resistant to important diseases. Pathogens will also be evaluated for changes in virulence on the host or fungicide sensitivity.

Northarvest funding request: \$45,228

SBARE funding request: \$18,604

DRY BEAN IMPROVEMENT FOR THE NORTHERN PLAINS

Principal Investigator: Juan Osorno, North Dakota State University

Research Assistance: Dr. Kristin Simons; Research Specialists: A.

Jody Vander Wal and John Posch;
Graduate Students, Edgar Escobar
and Eddy Ixcotoyac

Project Objective: The objective of the dry breeding program at

NDSU is to develop high yielding, high quality dry bean genotypes that are adapted for the Northern Great Plains. The main priority is to improve pinto, navy, black and kidney

market classes, but also great northern, red and pink. During the winter, approximately 250 unique hybridizations or crosses are performed in the greenhouse. Variety trials are conducted at more than eight locations in North Dakota and two in Minnesota and include all public and private varieties, plus a few breeding lines at the final stages of breeding. During 2018, feedback about slow-darkening pintos (ND-Palomino) was described as very positive. Talond dark red kidney and Rosie light red kidney beans show higher seed yields than commercial checks. Eclipse is the most widely used cultivar in black bean production. Three new varieties have been released; ND Falcon pinto, ND Pegasus great northern and ND Whitetail white kidney.

Northarvest funding request:
\$151,180

EVALUATION OF SELECTED PLANT ESTABLISHMENT FACTORS AND NUTRITION TREATMENTS IN PINTO BEANS

Principal Investigator: Greg Endres, NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center

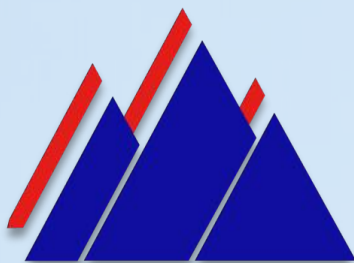
Project Objective: This project examines various fertilizer treatments with the goal of providing farmers with data on pinto bean plant nutrition to economically increase seed quality and yield. The study also considers row spacings and plant populations in pinto beans and the use of winter rye as a co-existing cover crop.

All of the studies are being conducted at the Carrington Research and Extension Center.

Northarvest funding request:
\$13,500

Continued on Next Page

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DRY BEAN GROWER SURVEY OF PEST PROBLEMS, PESTICIDE USE AND VARIETIES

Principal Investigator:

Janet Knodel

Project Objective: The survey documents change in dry bean grower agronomic practices, varieties grown, pest problems and pesticide use in North Dakota and Minnesota. These surveys have been conducted since 1987. The data on varieties has made it possible to trace the use of different varieties. It also provides information on major production problems and information on weeds, diseases and insects.

Northarvest funding request:
\$5,040

SOYBEAN CYST NEMATODE RESISTANCE IN DRY BEAN CULTIVARS AND BREEDING MATERIAL

Principal Investigators:

Dr. Berlin Nelson and Dr. Juan Osorno, North Dakota State University

Project Objective: SCN has been found to reduce yields of pinto, navy and kidney beans by significant amounts. Advanced breeding lines from seven market classes are screened to identify the level of susceptibility/resistance. Sources of resistance to HG 2.5.7 in *p. vulgaris* plants are being advanced in the NDSU breeding program. This is the second year proposal of a three-year project.

Northarvest funding request:
\$29,260

IMPROVING WHITE MOLD MANAGEMENT IN DRY BEANS

Principal Investigator: Michael Wunsch, NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center

Project Objective: This project seeks to improve the control of white mold in pinto beans by optimizing fungicide spray droplet size and quantifying the response of the fungicide Topsin to adjuvants. Studies will be established in Carrington on land with a previous history of white mold disease pressure. Supplemental overhead irrigation is delivered through micro-sprinkler misting systems.

Northarvest funding request:
\$21,875

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Dry Bean Growers Call on Lawmakers to Ratify USMCA

It's taken longer than expected for Congress to ratify the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement. The timeline shifted from early 2019 to the end of summer, and there are still unknowns if the agreement will be ratified by that time.

The USMCA, an updated version of the North American Free Trade Agreement, will address phytosanitary issues between the three countries, bringing the agreement into the digital age.

In particular, the agreement does no harm to the U.S. dry bean industry. It will help keep trade relations strong between the United States, Mexico and Canada. That's important for dry edible bean growers, as about 20 percent of annual U.S. dry bean production is exported. Mexico is the top market for U.S. dry beans.

When Vice President Mike Pence traveled to Glyndon, Minnesota in early May to discuss trade, Borup dry bean grower Mark Harless was eager for a chance to tell his story. In the final of three roundtable discussions, Harless told Pence about black beans grown in the Red River Valley.

"I told Vice President Pence we have to get the

USMCA ratified. Sixty percent of black beans we produce go to Mexico. It's vitally important we keep

that market open," said Harless.

"If we lose that market it would be devastating to

the black bean industry. Prices would collapse, acreage would collapse

Continued on Page 13



Harless talks about the importance of trade for the dry bean industry with Vice President Pence during a visit in Minnesota.

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and we could lose the industry. As long as USMCA isn't ratified, there is uncertainty."

Following the roundtable discussion, Pence echoed the needs of local farmers. "As Congress delays considering the USMCA, many family farms are struggling. The lack of certainty in the trade relationship with our partners to the north and south impacts real world choices that family farms are making," said Pence.

"It's the reason why the president and I feel such urgency. We drove hard for a deal on the trade agreement to level the playing field. We do believe the time to act is now."

Pence then called on House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson to work with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to ratify the USMCA.

"As Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, Peterson is in a unique position to carry the urgency to Democratic leaders of Congress and get them to act," said Pence. "If Speaker Pelosi puts the agreement on the floor of Congress, it will pass and create opportunities for certainty in our trading relationship in North America."

Pence's call to action received a quick response from Peterson. The House Agriculture Committee



Vice President Pence greets farmers and agricultural leaders gathered to hear more about agricultural trade.

Chairman was happy to make the request, but some hurdles remain before a vote can happen on the USMCA. The administration needs to submit the agreement to the House so it can be voted on.

In late May, the U.S. lifted steel and aluminum tariffs on Mexico and Canada. Lifting the tariffs helped ease concerns about the agreement in the Senate, but not the House. The administration hasn't sent the legislation to the House, and it won't be sent until it has full support.

At issue for House Democrats is the need for stronger enforcement of Mexico's labor and environmental standards. Speaker Pelosi has been meeting with U.S. Trade Representative Robert

Lighthizer to resolve the challenges.

President Trump told reporters in late May, "We're at a point where we'll have to send it in. It's all ready." Trump also said if the House Democrats don't get the USMCA ratified "it will be very bad."

Peterson confirmed his support for the agreement. "I told the administration if you don't screw anything up, I'll support it. It doesn't do any harm to agriculture. If they don't get rid of NAFTA, it's not a huge deal for us one way or another."

When the House passes the USMCA, it is expected the Senate will quickly ratify the agreement. North Dakota Senator Kevin Cramer says the text and details of the USMCA are well known.

"Other countries, like

Mexico and Canada, have responded to some of the Democrat's concerns with their own legislation regarding labor and labor protections. There's not a lot left to do."

The administration remains hopeful for a vote this year. Chief Agricultural Negotiator in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative Gregg Doud says they've worked really hard on the USMCA. "This isn't as much of a Republican or Democratic issue as it is educating new members on the importance of trade in agriculture."

That's what dry bean growers continue to do; call on lawmakers to support the USMCA. "Trade shouldn't be a political issue," says Harless. "I hope our leaders can get behind the agreement and pass it soon."

BEAN BRIEFS

NORTHARVEST ELECTS NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS

The Northarvest Bean Growers Association elected a new slate of Board of Director officers, as well as U.S. Dry Bean Council directors.

David Dickson of Gilby, North Dakota is the new Northarvest president. Previously, Dickson served as vice president and also serves on the promotion, legislative, search, scholarship and communication committees. Dickson was first elected to the board in 2013.

Elected as vice president is Thomas Arnold of Appleton, Minnesota. Arnold serves on the Northarvest legislative, research and crop insurance committees. He was first elected to the board in 2014.

Eric Samuelson of Crookston, Minnesota was elected as the Northarvest treasurer. Samuelson was first elected to the board in 2015 and serves on the legislative and crop insurance committees.

Serving as the USDBC director is Kevin Regan of Webster, North Dakota. Regan was first elected in 2015. With this assignment, he will represent the two-state region of Northarvest.

Roger Carignan of Cavalier, North Dakota is the USDBC alternate director, representing the two-state region of Northarvest. Carignan is currently the vice chair of the North Dakota Dry Bean Council and was first elected in 2013.

KRAUSE RE-ELECTED TO MN DRY BEAN COUNCIL

Norman Krause of Nisswa, Minnesota was re-elected to serve a three-year term on the Minnesota Dry Bean Research & Promotion Council. Krause has served as a di-



At the spring board meeting, Northarvest Outgoing President Tom Kennelly presents Jon Ewy of Deer Creek, Minnesota with a plaque for 16 years of service to the Northarvest board of directors.

rector on the Council for nine years and also chairs the Northarvest Bean Growers Association research committee.

DISCOVER YOUR BEAN PERSONALITY

The Northarvest Bean Growers Association has a brand new quiz that allows users to “discover their bean personality.” This quiz educates people about the ten classes of beans grown in the Northarvest region and is also used at promotional shows to engage with attendees. Take the quiz by visiting beaninstitute.com/discover-your-bean-personality.

U.S. DRY BEAN COUNCIL MEETS WITH CUBAN OFFICIALS

The U.S. Dry Bean Council met with Ambassador Carlos Fernandez de Cossio, General Director for U.S. Affairs for Cuba’s Foreign Ministry, in Washington DC in early May. Despite the renewal of several regulations limiting trade with Cuba, Cuba remains interested in engaging with U.S. entities whose commercial activities are still permitted by regulations. Fortunately, those regulations remain favorable to agriculture.

For the first time, the 2018 Farm Bill includes language allowing for the use of marketing funds granted under the MAP and FMD programs

to conduct trade development activities in Cuba. USDBC will continue to provide updates on this opportunity as it develops.

SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY IN TURKEY

With support from the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service's Agricultural Trade Promotion program, the U.S. Dry Bean Council kicked off a social media campaign in Turkey. The goal is to educate Turkish consumers about all dry bean classes grown in the United States and increase U.S. exports to Turkey. Although they consume dry beans virtually every day, few Turkish consumers know that the U.S. is a major supplier of dry beans.

The campaign features recipes and weekly meal plans on Facebook and Instagram, the two largest social media platforms in Turkey. A second component of the program is the creation of a Turkish-language website to provide consumers with information regarding the types of dry beans that the U.S. has to offer, as well as the health benefits.

The posts are designed to drive readers to visit the website to learn more about U.S. dry beans and how they can be used in everyday Turkish cooking. In addition, well-known Turkish chefs will be engaged to promote U.S. dry beans via Facebook and Instagram, as well as on television cooking shows.

U.S. DRY BEAN ACRES EXPECTED TO SLIGHTLY INCREASE

According to USDA, the United States is expecting to see a slight increase in dry bean acres this planting season. The Planting Inten-

tions report estimates total planted acres at 1.24 million, up one percent from 1.22 million in 2018. Starting in 2019, USDA now excludes chickpeas from dry edible beans numbers.

CANADIAN DRY BEAN ACRES PROJECTED TO DECREASE

Statistics Canada released their preliminary plantings report. For 2019, dry bean acres are expected to decrease 8.1 percent to 325,000 acres. That's compared to 353,000 in 2018. Acreage for chickpeas is pegged at 334,000, down 24.5 percent from 443,000 in 2018. Lentils are also anticipated to drop by 9.6 percent to 3.4 million acres, compared to 3.7 million the previous year.

DRY BEAN DELEGATION VISITS JAPAN

A U.S. dry bean delegation visited Japan to meet with importers and end users this spring. Japan is a buyer of baby lima beans, purchasing up to 70 percent of production. There also continues to be a demand by end users for Great Northern beans.

Over the last several years, the U.S. has seen an increase in other classes such as garbanzo and dark red kidney beans. Baby lima and Great Northern beans are used in a sweet bean paste for Japanese confectionery. Garbanzo and dark red kidney bean are used in soups and salads.

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Tell us about your crop consulting business.

I am a Certified Crop Advisor and serve as a full-time agronomist for Stony Ridge Foods. I work with growers on all agronomic field concerns during the growing season, answer grower questions, scout crops, identify field problems and make pesticide recommendations. Also, I monitor pesticides available for use on dry edible beans and work to inform growers of any product label changes.

How has the agriculture industry changed during your career? The technology available today allows for more rapid access of information to growers. I’m getting more and more questions from growers on ideas they’ve come across through the internet and how those ideas may work for them. Planting equipment has also become more precise, allowing for better stands. Harvesting equipment has also improved, resulting in better harvest quality of crops.

What’s your favorite tool or piece of technology?

My cellphone. It allows for easier and quicker interaction between growers and myself. Sometimes timeliness of communication is critical during the growing season.

What advice would you give dry bean growers to maximize their yields each year? It all starts with a plan. Budget all of your crop inputs and plant on a timely basis. Become intimate with your fields and know what’s going on in them (and the surrounding area) during the growing season. Also, harvest fields when they are ready and do a quality job of harvesting.

When you’re not scouting fields and working with growers, what do you do for fun? Scouting fields... what else is there?! Last year, we established a test plot program. This year’s plot location allows for additional room for some garden crops. So, guess where I’ll be?

What is your favorite food? Bean soup – why not? I love trying all kinds of food. That’s why I enjoy food courts so much. It provides a variety of food options.

What’s the best part of your job? The best part is working with our “family” of growers and allowing myself the opportunity to farm along with them. Taking pride in treating those fields as my own is important to me. Also, I enjoy being part of a family-owned business that places a value on family. It’s fun to go to work!

**Jason Hanson
Rock and Roll
Agronomy LLC
Webster, ND**



Tell us about your crop consulting business.

My business is a little unique. I have farmers that I consult with on their farms, and I also work with ag retailers and try to help them in areas of need. The main crops I work with farmers on are wheat, barley, corn, canola, soybeans, field peas and dry beans. When working with ag retailers, I help with agronomic support, trouble shooting and marketing.

The business has been a training platform for my children’s interest in agriculture.

How has the agriculture industry changed during your career? Growing up in the 1980s, our farm planted durum, barley and sunflowers. It seemed like farms were not as diverse in crops as they are today. My first scouting job consisted of wild oat and broadleaf weeds in cereals and the sunflower/dry bean/potato insect or disease situation. Now you have an influx of mainly corn, soybeans and canola. So, technology has been a huge driver in crop mix, size of equipment and farms and the amount of risk in farming now. Another has been the number of women who are active in all aspects of agriculture.

What’s your favorite tool or piece of technology? I would have to say my iPhone is the piece of technol-

ogy I am the most dependent on. I can do multiple tasks — take pictures, carry on multiple conversations via text, call, browse social media and keep up to date with things so much better. Combine that with my four-wheeler and a small hand trowel, and I am on my way to a great day of fun.

What advice would you give dry bean growers to maximize their yields each year? Don't place dry beans in fields that are going to have issues with poor water drainage or tough weed situations. Plan on fungicide and zinc use, and if yields can still move up, then look at some foliar options if weather conditions look favorable. Personally, I would like to try more side-dressing to achieve and stimulate more yield (or similar yields) with less total nitrogen.

When you're not scouting fields and working with growers, what do you do for fun? I like to travel and see other places. Our family is big on the National Park system, and it's our goal to see as many as possible. We enjoy international travel as well. I spent some time

in Russia not too long ago. This summer my wife, in-laws and myself are planning a trip to Iceland, Scotland and Ireland. I also really like to read about history and ice fish.

What is your favorite food? This is always an interesting question. I feel very blessed that I've never had to worry about food on a day-to-day basis. Where will it come from? What will it be? Can I afford it? Is it safe to eat? I am trying my best to make hunger a non-issue. My personal preference for food is vast, with very few items on the list that I don't care for. The more diverse, the better. Church pot-lucks, spicy, anything out of the water, etc.

What's the best part of your job? I love being in a career that is similar every day, but can be so different and challenging within a couple hours. I have developed many relationships with people who want to strive towards a common goal. It is also satisfying to do your best in helping others, to be curious, try new things and learn from others.

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2018 Dry Bean Grower Survey Released

For 29 years, dry bean growers have responded to an annual survey from North Dakota State University of varieties grown, pest problems, pesticide use and grower practices.

A total of 241 growers responded to the survey, representing 15.2 percent of last year's total planted acreage. The previous year, 239 growers complete the survey. All participants of the survey were anonymous.

In 2018, the two most popular varieties by class were:

- **Pinto:** 1. Vibrant (SD) 2. Wind-breaker
- **Black:** 1. Eclipse 2. Zorro
- **Kidney:** 1. Montcalm 2. Red Hawk
- **Navy:** 1. HMS Medalist 2. T9905
- **Pink:** 1. Floyd 2. Not specified

- **Small Red:** 1. Ruby 2. Merlot
 - **Cranberry:** 1. Bellagio
- More than 32 percent of growers



who responded ranked drought as the most significant production problem in 2018. Diseases and harvest were ranked as the next largest production problems. In 2017, water damage was number one on this list and drought was number two.

As in 2017, the worst weed problems in 2018 were kochia, lambs-quarters and ragweed. Basagran/generics and Raptor were the most commonly used herbicides by dry bean growers last year.

A grant from the Northarvest Bean Growers Association funded the survey. The full findings of the survey can be found online at www.ag.ndsu.edu/publications/crops/browse-by-crop/dry-bean.



Through the Healthy Kids Collaborative, Northarvest has partnered with School Nutrition Plus, a school food service operation in Los Angeles, California, to develop three bean recipes. In early May, a taste testing was held at Fenton Avenue Elementary School in Lake View Terrace with over 700 students. Pictured are students test tasting black bean hummus (recipe on Page 19).



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BLACK BEAN HUMMUS WITH GREEN PEPPER TRIANGLES

This recipe from School Nutrition Plus puts a Southwest spin on Greek hummus

Ingredients:

1 cup canned black beans, drained and rinsed
2 tablespoons olive oil
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
½ teaspoon ground cumin
¼ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon black pepper
1 garlic clove, minced
1 large green bell pepper, sliced in triangles
Fresh cilantro leaves for garnish

Directions

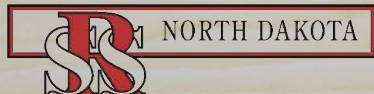
1. Place all ingredients, except green bell pepper and cilantro, in food processor and blend until smooth.
2. Transfer dip to a small bowl. Garnish with cilantro leaves. Dip bell pepper triangles into hummus

Prep Options: Raid the produce section to make this dip fun. Red bell peppers, as well as carrots and cucumbers, also make good dippers for this hummus.



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First-Ever Global Plant-Forward Summit Held in Napa, CA

Northarvest Bean Growers Association was a bronze-level sponsor for the summit, held May 1-3

By Megan Myrdal

The interest in plant-forward eating continues to grow as consumers seek food choices that support personal health, as well as the health of the planet. The Culinary Institute of America (CIA) describes a plant-forward diet as a style of cooking and eating that emphasizes and celebrates, but is not limited to, plant-based food. Those foods include fruits, vegetables, whole grains, beans, other legumes, soy foods, nuts, seeds, plant oils, herbs and spices.

To align with this growing global trend, the CIA hosted the first-ever Global Plant-Forward Culinary Summit at the beginning of May in Napa, CA. The summit brought together an audience of 300 food, culinary and beverage

leaders in the American foodservice to experience flavor strategies and explore critical opportunities around plant-forward menus.

Northarvest was a bronze-level sponsor for this event, which included an exhibitor opportunity to share recipes and resources to support the use of beans in plant-forward menus. The event also featured two menu tastings during the walkabout lunch and post-conference reception.

During the menu tasting, Northarvest was partnered with Unilever, a global food company who owns over 400 unique brands, to create a unique dish. Unilever promoted a new product line called Knorr Intense Flavors. This is a line of liquid seasonings exclusive for



Smoky White Bean Hummus was prepared for the menu tasting by Northarvest, in collaboration with Unilever.



Another recipe prepared for the menu tasting was Smoky White Bean Salad.

food services that help chefs add bold dimensions of flavor to their dishes with ease. The two recipes developed, pairing beans and the intense flavors, were a Smoked White Bean Hummus and a Smoked White Bean Salad.

Overall, there was good

conversations, networking and positive attention for beans throughout the conference. As beans are a staple for any plant-forward menu, having a presence at summits like this is important and valuable to keep beans top of mind for food service leaders.

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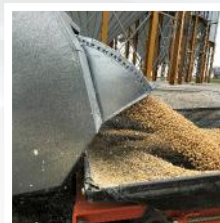
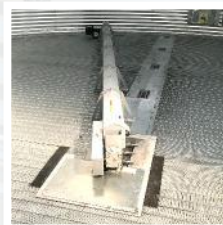
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Northarvest Exhibits at MN and ND Dietitian Conferences

This spring, the Northarvest Bean Growers Association sponsored and exhibited at the North Dakota and Minnesota Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics annual conferences. Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) are food and nutrition experts who work in a variety of places including schools, hospitals, grocery stores and public health clinics.

Northarvest works to connect with and promote dry edible beans to RDNs to ensure they are top of mind when advis-



A conference attendee shows off her new "I Love BEAN a Dietitian" shirt.

wooden spoons were also provided to visitors. In combination, the conferences attracted over 425 dietitians, dietetic technicians and students.

Northarvest also recently released a "Discover Your Bean Personality" quiz, which was launched at the Minnesota conference in April. Over 80 dietitians took the quiz, and 30 opted to share their results on social media to win a shirt that says "I Love BEAN a Dietitian." This activity generated social engagement for Northarvest and drove traffic to the Bean Institute website.

Overall, these conferences were a great success for the association. Dietitians regularly connect with consumers and are looked to for advice on healthy food choices. Therefore, they are a great audience to continue engaging with in the promotion of beans.

ing patients or clients on healthy diets and food choices. At the respective conferences, Northarvest Director of Domestic Marketing and Communications Megan Myrdal managed the booth and shared publications with attendees. Bean recipes and "Cook with Beans"



Information about simply delicious, naturally nutritious beans were shared with over 400 dietitians at the two conferences.

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Better Bean Breeding

Juan Osorno's journey to establish a well-respected dry bean breeding program.

By Jessie Topp-Becker

As a young boy growing up in Colombia, a career in the United States as a plant breeder wasn't on Juan Osorno's short list of career goals. But decades later, that's exactly what happened.

Osorno was raised in the Colombian city of Cali, where both his parents worked. His grandparents were farmers, and that's how Juan first interacted with the agriculture industry.

While in school, he always enjoyed science classes. Biology was his favorite. At the time, the only career Osorno could think of related to biology was a teacher, and that didn't pique his interests at the time. However, a family friend was an agronomist on a sugar cane farm, and Juan enjoyed visiting with him. It was those visits that opened his eyes to another career path.

"I found it interesting. It dealt with science and bi-

ology, but it was even better because it was more applied. I found much more purpose in it," say Osorno.

He attended Colombia's national university, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, in Palmira, which is known for its agronomy program. Following graduation with his bachelor's degree in 1997, Osorno pursued a master's degree at the University of Puerto Rico, graduating in 2003.

Although earning his Ph.D. was never some-

thing Juan had thought about, an opportunity to study corn breeding at North Dakota State University became available. That was an opportunity Osorno couldn't refuse.

The ability to gain new experiences and learn from different people is what attracted Osorno to the three very diverse universities.

"I was looking for new experiences, new ways of learning and seeing the world. I felt that I had to go out and see; learn from



NDSU Dry Bean Breeder Juan Osorno

other places and other people," he says. "That was probably my main drive, regardless of where it was, the scientific curiosity to see how things are done in other places."

After graduating from NDSU with his doctorate in 2006, Osorno accepted a position as a professor and dry bean breeder/geneticist in NDSU's Department of Plant Sciences. Today, he continues in this position, where his time is divided between teaching and research responsibilities.

In the early years of his career, Osorno enjoyed

research more than teaching. Over the years, he's seen the impact he can make as a teacher and has found renewed passion for this aspect of the job.

"The rewards from teaching are very different from the rewards of doing research," says Osorno. "I think the most eye opening experience for me was one time a student said, 'I changed my major because of your class.' It was one of those ah-ha moments, and today I'm probably more conscientious of my job as a teacher."

Osorno is well-known

for his dry bean breeding program, and enjoys the challenge of managing the materials in his breeding pipeline.

"It doesn't become too monotonous, you have different challenges and activities, so that makes the job a little more interesting," he says. "It's exciting to think about the potential impact that you can make every time you release a variety."

While he enjoys the opportunity to teach and conduct research, Juan says it requires a great deal of focus to balance the responsibilities of

both areas. He also has to manage the expectations of growers and students, who sometimes forget about the other work he does.

As a dry bean breeder, Osorno develops new varieties of all types of dry beans. The diversity of dry bean market classes is "both a curse and a blessing."

"It's nice to see all the different types, colors and shapes. It's almost like dealing with different animals," he explains. "But at the same time, we have to keep everything segregat-

Continued on Next Page

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ed by seed type and market class, so our program is sub-divided into different programs almost.”

The transition to upright plant architecture is one of the biggest changes Osorno has observed during his extensive career in the industry.

“The breeding started in the 1990s, but it wasn’t until the early 2000s that we started seeing the first products of that effort,” says Osorno.

In 2007, Osorno started to see the gradual shift from the conventional two-pass method to direct harvest. Today, he says nearly 100 percent of North Dakota’s dry bean acres are harvested with that method. “That’s thanks to improved variet-

ies, but also better equipment that’s able to adapt to these things, as well.”

More recently, dry bean growers are starting to transition to slow darkening pinto beans. Osorno is excited to see how growers and the industry react to this change.

While he had the opportunity to work in NDSU’s corn breeding program during graduate school, the large part of Osorno’s career has been spent working with dry beans. He’s very passionate about the dry bean industry and works diligently to release varieties growers can use on their operations.

“That’s probably the most fulfilling part of my job,” he says. “People want

high yield, good seed quality, upright plant architecture, early maturity, disease resistance, good cooking and canning quality. We get pulled in so many directions as breeders, so we try to take everything from a more

holistic approach and work with these traits simultaneously.”

When not in a classroom or lab, Osorno enjoys being outdoors and spending time with his wife and three children.



Osorno speaks to a group of farmers at a NDSU Extension field day.



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Northarvest Members Advocate for Key Dry Bean Issues in D.C.

Members of the Northarvest Bean Growers Association and the North Central Bean Dealers were in Washington, D.C. this past April. While there, they discussed the farm bill and other policy implications with Congressional delegates from Minnesota and North Dakota.

U.S. Dry Bean Council Director and Webster, North Dakota farmer Kevin Regan says trade remains the top priority for the industry. "We talked about the Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs," says Regan. "They

are hurting U.S. exports to the European Union, especially in the kidney and navy bean markets."

Trade with the European Union does indeed remain a top trade focus. So far, agriculture has not been a part of the conversation in trade talks with the country. A 25 percent tariff remains on U.S. dry bean imports.

"Tariffs on automobiles are the holdup," says Northarvest District Director and Grafton, North Dakota farmer Tom Kennelly. "Nobody knows where this is going to go. So, we'll have to wait and see."

While in D.C., members also met with Senate and House agricultural staff, USDA Agricultural Re-

search Service leadership and Foreign Agricultural Services Administrator Ken Isley.



Pictured left to right in front of the Capitol Building are Northarvest members Joe Mauch, Tom Kennelly, Kevin Regan and Eric Samuelson.



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Trade Assistance Package Provides Support for Dry Bean Industry

U.S. dry bean growers and producers feeling the impact of ongoing global trade disruptions will soon feel relief with USDA's announcement of a new assistance package. Dry beans are included in a list of over 20 crops that will receive a payment through USDA's Market Facilitation Program for 2019.

"While we remain hopeful that we can soon reach deals to resume trade flows, we are very grateful for this support

from the administration through USDA to help our industry stay productive during this challenging time," says U.S. Dry Bean Council President Deon Maasjo of Oakes, North Dakota. "Our public/private partnership with USDA remains strong, and we remain committed to working through this together."

Rather than different rates for the various commodities, USDA Undersecretary Bill Northey says farmers will now be paid


based on a single county rate. "The team has gone through and looked at the trade damage each county is feeling. We then divide that by the acreage planted within the county and will have a single payment, no matter which of the crops you plant."

This relief strategy is still being reviewed, but payments will be expedited. "The payments will come out in three different times of the year; we're looking at a first payment coming out in July or Au-

gust," says Northey. The second payment can be expected in November, and the third will come in January of 2020.


Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue says payments will likely be front-loaded, coming out shortly after the Farm Service Agency acreage reporting is wrapped up in mid-July. The first tranche of payments are the only ones guaranteed. The second and third tranches will be made if market and trade conditions are warranted.


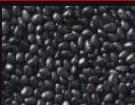



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Soil Health Efforts Now Include Practices Used in Dry Beans

**By Abbey Wick,
NDSU Extension Soil
Health Specialist**

North Dakota State University is establishing a second Soil Health and Agriculture Research Extension (SHARE) Farm at Logan Center, North Dakota. This new site will demonstrate soil health building practices on-farm and develop Extension programs around whole-systems management where reduced tillage, diversified rotations and cover crops are being used and salinity may be a concern.

The SHARE Farm sites, with one already located in Mooreton, ND, are farmer-driven, long-term, field-scale and serve as “hubs” to connect research projects and Extension programs across the region. The sites help NDSU develop regionally relevant recommendations based on field-scale

research and brings a commitment of Extension programs to farmers in that area.

With this new site, we will address reducing tillage and incorporating cover crops into a corn, soybean, wheat and pinto bean rotation on loamy soils with varying topography. We will also address and demonstrate approaches to manage salt-affected soils, all based on farmer input. Extension programs will be developed based on farmer’s needs and customized to the region.

In the past, NDSU has held informal discussion groups called Café Talks to share science-based and practical ideas related to soil health building practices and whole-systems management. Due to the success of the Café Talks, they will likely continue and intensify in north-eastern ND, but programs may be adjusted based

on new ideas and farmer feedback.

So, what’s unique about the SHARE Farm at Logan Center?

- Four commodity groups are invested in bringing answers about soil health and whole systems management to farmers, including the Northarvest Bean Growers Association, ND Corn Council, ND Wheat Commission and ND Soybean Council.
- A four-crop rotation of pinto beans, corn, soybean and wheat, where we will fit in cover crops in each phase of the rotation.
- Strips of full tillage being demonstrated next to no-till so we can measure soil moisture and temperature along with soil health properties, crop emergence, stand and yield response.
- Whole systems response to the changes

implemented on-farm, including weed and disease response.

- New NDAWN station with top of the line capabilities installed on-site to link weather information to research demonstration results.
- Involvement of researchers and Extension specialists from the main campus (Fargo) along with Carrington Research Extension Center and Langdon Research Extension Center.

As the SHARE Farm program continues to develop, please watch for the information being produced on-site and take advantage of the Extension programming offered. Information is posted on the NDSU Soil Health webpage (ndsu.edu/soilhealth), and you can also follow me on Twitter to get updates on various projects (@NDSU-soilhealth).



An aerial view of the SHARE Farm at Logan Center, where three tillage strips (put in with a high-speed disk this spring) going across the field in the foreground.



DAVE BLASEY

Petersburg, North Dakota

Wheat, barley, canola, sunflowers, soybeans, corn and pinto, black, small lima and yellow beans

Tell us about your family history on the farm? How did you get into farming?

I started farming in 1993. My grandpa had a small farm and was a part time farmer his entire life. We started small, doing a whole bunch of custom work, and it grew from there.

How long have you raised dry beans and what

classes do you grow? We started raising dry beans in 1996 or 1997, somewhere in there. Our neighbors were raising them and it looked kind of fun. Little did I know it was a lot of work. Today, we grow pinto beans, black beans and are going to try some yellow beans this year.

What has been your favorite piece of farm equipment? I would have to say probably my Pickett dry bean combine.

If you could take a vacation anywhere, where would you go? I would go back to Hawaii. We really liked our last vacation there.

Do you have any hobbies, or what do you do in your spare time?

We go out west snowmobiling a lot in the winter, and my son actually started racing snowmobiles last winter. Also, my family has been taking in a lot of traveling team basketball with my girls. I stay busy just being a dad, and I enjoy that.

What's the best part about being a farmer? There aren't too many days in a row that involves the same thing. My favorite time of year is harvest. Everything you've worked and planned for over the previous months comes full circle. You get to see what you did right, and wrong, and your hard work has paid off.



KURT AAKRE

Karlstad, Minnesota

Seed wheat, seed soybeans, sugarbeets, black beans and navy beans

Tell us about your family history on the farm? How did you get into farming?

I grew up on farm near Rolag, Minnesota. Other than being a banker for a short time, I've been on the farm my entire life. In the late 1980s, I joined my in-laws farming in the Karlstad area. I farm with my brother-in-law, Dean Johnson, and my son, Adam Aakre.

How long have you raised dry beans and what classes do you grow? We first started raising dry beans in the mid to late 1990s. We grow black and navy beans

because they fit into our farm. Not a lot of extra equipment is necessary for planting or harvesting.

What has been your favorite piece of farm equipment? I've sure come to enjoy the late model tractors with autosteer and all the bells and whistles. They make you feel like you're at home all the time.

If you could add any new equipment, what would it be? A new combine, particularly a John Deere S770.

Do you have any hobbies, or what do you do in your spare time? I enjoy being around my family. We have three grandchildren and one more on the way in July. So, I just enjoy doing things with them.

What's the best part about being a farmer? I get to enjoy all of God's creations. It's amazing to put a little seed in the ground and see it start to grow and mature. My grandchildren live close to us, so we get to watch them enjoy various parts of the farming life.



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